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## OXFORD DEMOCRAT,

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EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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EXECUTED WITH NEATNESS AND DESPATCH.

## POETRY.

### A SACRED MELODY.

BY WM. LEGGETT.

If you bright stars, which gem the night,  
Be each a blissful radiant sphere,  
Where kindred spirits re-unite—  
Whom death hath torn asunder here—  
How sweet it were at once to die,  
And leave this blighted orb afar;  
Mix soul to soul, to cleave the sky,  
And soar away from star to star.

But O, how dark, how drear, how lone,  
Would seem the highest world of bliss,  
If, wandering through each radiant one,  
We fail to find the love of this;  
If there no more the ties shall twine,  
That death's cold hand alone can sever;  
Ah! then these stars in mockery shine,  
More hateful as they shine forever.

It cannot be; each hope each fear,  
That lights the eye, or clouds the brow,  
Proclaims there is a happier sphere,  
Than this bleak world that holds us now.  
There is a voice which sorrow hears,  
When heaviest weighs life's galling chain,  
'Tis heaven that whispers—dry thy tears,  
The pure in heart shall meet again.

### CHARITY.

"Tis a little thing  
To give a cup of water; yet the drought  
Of cool refreshment, drained by fevered lips,  
May give a shock of pleasure to the frame  
More exquisite than when nectarine juice  
Renews the life of joy in happiest hours.  
It is a little thing to speak a praise  
Of common comfort, which by daily use  
Has almost lost its sense; yet on the ear  
Of him who thought to die unmourned, 'twill fall  
Like choicest music; fill the eye  
With gentle tears; relax the knotted hand  
To know the bonds of fellowship again;  
And shed on the departed soul a sense  
More precious than the benison of friends  
About the honored death-bed of the rich,  
To him who else were lonely, that another  
Of the great family is near and feels."—Jon.

### THE SILK-WORM'S WILL.

On a plain rush bundle a silk-worm lay,  
When a proud young princess came that way;  
The haughty child of a human king,  
Threw a sidelong glance at the humble thing  
That took, with a silent gratitude,  
From the mulberry leaf her simple food;  
And shrank, half scorn and half disgust,  
Away from her sister child of dust—  
Declaring she never yet could see  
Why a reptile form like this should be,  
And that she was not made with nerves so firm,  
As calmly to stand by a crawling worm!"

With mute forbearance the silk-worm took  
The taunting words and the spurning look:  
Alike a stranger to self and pride,  
She'd no disquiet from angry beside—  
And lived of a meekness and peace possessed,  
Which these debar from the human breast.  
She only wished, for the harsh abuse,  
To find some way to become of use  
To the laughing daughter of lordly man;  
And thus did she lay a noble plan.  
To teach her wisdom and make it plain,  
That the humble worm was not made in vain;  
A plan so generous, deep and high,  
That, to carry it out, she must even die!

"No more," said she, "will I drink or eat!  
I'll spin and weave me a winding-sheet,  
To wrap me up from the sun's clear light,  
And hide my form from her wounded sight.  
In secret, then, till my end draws nigh,  
I'll toil for her, and when I die,  
I'll leave behind, as a farewell boon,  
To the proud young princess, my whole cocoon,  
To be reeled and wove to a shining lace,  
And hung in a veil o'er her scornful face!  
And then she can calmly draw her breath  
Thro' the very threads that have caused my death!"

When she finds, at length, she has nerves so firm,  
As to wear the shroud of a crawling worm,  
May she bear in mind, that she walks with pride  
In the winding-sheet where the silk-worm died!

At an old bachelor's door a bundle was left.  
On its being carried to the old lady house-keeper and inspected by her, she declared its contents to be a "crying shame."

A Yankee taylor dunned a man for the amount of his bill. The man said, "I was sorry, very sorry indeed, that I couldn't pay it." "Well," said the taylor, "I took you for a man that would be sorry, but if you are sorer than I am, I'll quit."

A tradesman, imagining and believing himself to be a four shilling piece, advertised himself thus:—"If my wife presents me in payment, don't change me."

Some women use paint as fiddlers do rosin—to aid them in drawing a "beau."

Non Committal.—An old woman was asked what she thought of one of her neighbors by the name of Jones, who with a very knowing look replied:—"Why, I don't like to say anything about my neighbors, but as to Mr. Jones, sometimes I think, and then again I don't know—but after all I rather guess he'll turn out to be a good deal such sort of a man as I take him to be."

Commend us, ye gods! to a newpaper roasting. But spare, oh! spare me a tea-table toasting.

A camp bed, of grand quality, has been invented in Cincinnati. One of the editors there says that "it shuts up like a jack-knife, and opens nowhere."

From the Democratic Review.

## REASONS WHY THE ASPECT OF SOCIETY IN ENGLAND AND THE UNITED STATES MUST BE RADICALLY AND PERMANENTLY DIFFERENT.

We must unavoidably form an incorrect judgment upon the general aspect of English and American society, unless we know the reasons which cause a difference in their respective customs, habits and manners. A transient observer, no matter how great his genius, how classic his pen, how brilliant his imagination, hastening through a foreign country, with no standard on his mind but that of his own nation, lays hold of things at random, as they are presented to his view, and without any clear conception of their fitness, and without tracing the effect to the cause, is apt to condemn and ridicule what he does not comprehend. I shall endeavor to place the subject in such a clear point of view, that every Englishman may feel that he is right in believing, that there is no government in the world so wisely adapted to promote his interests and secure his happiness as his own; and every American that there is no government so well calculated to guard his liberty, secure his rights, and consolidate his happiness as the one of his choice; and that consequently the manners, habits, and customs of each are just such as naturally flows from the respective systems of government and although diverging in contrary directions from a common centre, shows, nevertheless, an equal justice and fitness. There is no solid ground for condemnation, still less for ridicule; and therefore he who sets himself up as judge and arbiter, and shapes his decrees by the exclusive standard of his own country, places himself in a false position, and deserves the humiliation of seeing his judgment overruled. These two fundamental principles being settled, all the differences of national character will be recognized as exactly appropriate to the system to which they belong, and cannot be removed or taken down without destroying the frame-work of society, and dissolving its elementary principles.

If we consider, in the first place, the general state of society in England, and then advert to that of our country, perhaps we shall best compass the end at which we aim, illustrate our views by facts and the light of contrast, and bring out the characteristic features of both.

In England the feudal system, that tremendous military power, which, with a rod of iron, reduced the British nation to a vast army, and held the population in the most inexorable bondage, is abolished. But the spirit of that system in all its most essential proportions as they bear upon modern society, still remains in full vigor. Indeed, the various classes of the community are more distinctly marked off, and each assigned to its specific rank, now than they were under the feudal system itself.

In those remote ages the mass of the people of England were absolute slaves captured in war, sold as bondsmen, incapable of holding any property, subject to the entire control of the barons in peace or war, and transferable with the soil, precisely in the same manner that Africans, or any other slaves, are at the present day. But interesting as this subject is, and bearing directly upon the point in hand, it is not my intention to trace it through its successive meliorations, from its introduction into England by William the Conqueror to its final abrogation at Runnymede. A reference to it only, as constituting the basis on which the whole structure of English society rests, and as affording a clue for the development of many traits of character and habits of life which would otherwise appear to an American singularly absurd and incongruous, will be sufficient. But our attention may well be directed to the consideration of the spirit of the feudal system, entwining itself around every branch of society, and holding in one compact body the component parts of a mighty nation.

The hereditary claims of birth, the deference paid by every subject to his superior in rank, and the promptitude with which he takes and occupies his appropriate station in the general system all flow from the spirit of feudalism, and are perfectly agreeable to the mind, and congenial with the feelings of an Englishman. It will be perceived that rank is not confined to the nobility. Every individual in the empire holds rank—is a peer in his own circle—and just as tenacious to maintain it as if he sat upon the throne.

The crown, as head of the monarchy, and conservator of the Church, the centre of power, the source of emolument, and the arbiter of honorable distinction, necessarily claims the first and only rank without a peer. To be alienated from the crown is to be an outlaw. In the eyes of an Englishman, every thing that is great and glorious, and venerable, clusters around the name of majesty.

The hereditary nobility of the country, the great landed proprietors of the kingdom, sharing in the administration of government, and consequently the most prominent defenders of the throne, stand next in rank.

The legal profession, whence recruits are most usually drawn to strengthen and invigorate the power of the nobility, and to supply the defects of time and ineptitude, may be considered, in conjunction with the Church establishment, as holding the third rank in the state.

The army, navy, and literary classes the fourth.

The merchants and bankers the fifth.

The manufacturers the sixth.

The warehousemen and wholesale dealers the seventh.

The shopkeepers, retail dealers, and brokers the eighth.

The mechanics and master tradesmen the ninth.

The laborer, (agricultural, manufacturing and all other descriptions) the tenth.

Those are the general divisions of English society, with shades of difference and occasional intermingling of contiguous classes, as they exist at the present time in Great Britain, and, with some local distinctions, over the face of Europe.

All these distinctive grades of society, walled off, the one from the other, by common consent, are recognized in daily intercourse, and are more fully and more mechanically organized than they were when the feudal system bore its intolerably oppressive hand upon the population of the country.

Those accustomed to this aristocratical state of society, feel it neither grievous nor degrading to yield submission to those above seeing they receive the same homage from all below them.

Having pointed out this general classification as nearly as practicable, without pretending to perfect accuracy, but sufficiently near for our purpose, we may direct our attention to its consequences.

It is true, no class is confined to its appropriate orbit by any physical force, but there is a moral influence, ten times stronger, that never ceases to act, which binds the system in one compact, indissoluble union.

Born, educated and marshalled under such an influence, Americans cannot be surprised that Britons regard kings, lords, and commons as the perfection of government, and that proudly sustain it, individually and collectively, as the only form worthy of their support. Of course they must look upon every other form as weak and defective, incapable of upholding and defending the rights and privileges on the subject, and the legitimate object of their ridicule and contempt.

Under the active influence of such a system, without the practical means of judging of the effects of the supreme power of the state lodged in the hands of the people, and incapable of appreciating the advantages of a delegated authority, it is not just and reasonable to conclude that the government of England is better adapted to the tastes, humor, and affections of Englishmen than any other! A free representative government, like our own, cannot exist in England, and never did exist, nor in any part of Europe to any considerable extent. The middle and subordinate classes of society have precisely the same feelings of attachment to their government and to the respective ranks in which they move, as their superiors. The face of society, under the rule of such a system, must, in the nature of things, take its general features from the higher ranks of the community, and not at all from the humbler walks of life. The comparison, therefore, when made in reference to our own country utterly fails. There are no points of similarity. The same standard of measurement cannot apply to monarchical and republican manners, and the error lies in attempting to combine principles that have no affinity. I do not make these remarks with a view of derogating in the slightest degree from that reciprocal homage due from one British subject to another, but to show the inconsistency of that acrimonious spirit too often manifested upon both sides of the water, the working of a system fundamentally different from our own, and the influence which that system must have upon the mind and character of individuals, and of consequence upon the aspect of society.

No person in England below the rank of a peer, presumes to hold familiar intercourse with a peer; it would be to carry war into the entrenched camp of the most privileged order, and to break down the barriers of aristocratic society. I remember a case in point which occurred a few years ago in the neighborhood of London. A friend of mine, a mercantile gentleman, and a bank director, invited a co-director, who happened to be a baron, to dine with him. He accepted the invitation. When dinner was announced, my friend reserved for the baron the honor of handing his own lady to the dining room. To his signal mortification, the honor was declined, upon the ground that she was not a titled lady, and the baron had the honor of walking into the dining room by himself.

The baron acted agreeably to the etiquette of court. But as he accepted an invitation to dine with a commoner, it may well be doubted whether he acted agreeably to the etiquette of a gentleman. At all events the incident serves to illustrate my views of the distinction of rank, and to show the pertinacity with which that distinction is maintained. My friend, himself, would not accept an invitation to dine with a tradesman nor would he, under any circumstances, invite a tradesman to dine with him. In fact, he dare not. The customs of the country will not admit of it. Where he is to make such an assault upon the spirit of feudalism and the etiquette of his rank, all his friends, of equal standing, would forsake him. They would consider themselves insulted, and would decline a future invitation.

The same principles of exclusion runs through all the various ranks I have specified. I do not mean with an undeviating uniformity never to be departed from, but as a general rule by which English society is governed.

Upon national festivals as Christmas, or any other gala day, it is common for the lords of the soil to invite their tenants, the wealthy merchants, bankers and manufacturers, their clerks and servants, to their festive halls; but they dine in the kitchen or some other equally appropriate apartment—seldom with their host.

There is not a man in England who is not aristocratical in feelings towards all below him. It is an impossibility that it should be otherwise and any pretence to the contrary is sheer deception. Hence, you will perceive, that the scattered

fragments of the feudal system still float upon the current of society, and carry with them the most ample testimony of the original wreck. It is upon this principle that one can easily account for the fire of indignation which blazed in the bosom of the author of "American Notes," whose name it is well enough to forget, and made him ashamed to acknowledge his own countrymen whom he happened to meet on his journey from Philadelphia to Washington. He speaks of their having settled in America—of their gross and barbarous familiarity of daring to address him by way of question and answer, and of demeaning themselves as if they were his equals. Here one sees the feudal spirit developed in all the brilliancy of its native hues, emanating, it must be admitted, from a very subordinate cast, but, nevertheless, just as strong and unbending as if he were born to command. All that rampant self-esteem, engraved upon the bone and nursed in the flesh, broke from its moorings the moment he met with those from whom he expected reverence and submission, and which from the same family feeling would undoubtedly have been rendered in their own country. But they had resided in America a sufficient length of time to neutralize their national sympathies. They were not themselves aware of the slightest rudeness. They may have been landed proprietors, cultivating their own farms, independent in their circumstances, judging of mankind by their moral worth and personal excellence and in no respect inferior to the author, nay, perhaps of two, the better man. In them the spirit of feudalism had evaporated. In the author it still held sovereign sway. He brought his monarchical pack with him, and had not discernment enough to discover that he had strayed from the market.

Lady Montague, writing from Vienna to her friends in England, notices the fastidious manner in which points of rank were maintained at the Austrian court. In the narrow streets of that capital, where it was impossible to pass each other, two coaches driving in opposite directions met; each of the two ladies in the two coaches claimed the prerogative of rank, and consequently each refused to back out and give place to the other. Where they sat until two o'clock in the morning, and resolved to continue sitting rather than gave up the point of precedence, until death should step in and settle the controversy.

In order to clear the street, encumbered with two such loads of dignity, the emperor sent his guards to part them. The ladies, however, refused to move an inch, until the ingenious expedient was hit upon of taking them both out of their carriages at the same time, and in the same manner, and conveying them away in chairs. Thus the honor and rank of both were most signally vindicated. The passion for order is so omnipotent, especially among two ladies, that they mourn upon the death of their husbands, and are ready to break their hearts out of pure grief, because that fatal event puts an end to their rank.

The moral influence of the various co-existing and yet mutually independent ranks of social condition of England is inconceivably great and powerful the idea of reverence for rank irrespective of personal merit, descends from the crown to the lowest stratum of society. Wealth in all countries carries a modified influence, but is no ground for the distinction of order. One of the most remarkable features of this arbitrary system, arbitrary in our republican view of the subject, is the fact that the custom of ages has made subservience as much a universal law as if it were sanctioned by legislative acts. I am quite aware that it is a common and a fashionable thing for my countrymen to attribute the thoughtfulness and reserve and distance observed in the English character to pride and haughtiness. Nothing can be more erroneous. It is a part of the system, and necessary result of the form of government under which they live. From the remarks already suggested, it must be evident that the very existence of the ruling principle of aristocracy depends upon the exclusiveness of rank and class; and the strict maintenance of that principle resolves itself into a moral and civil duty, and is no evidence of pride or haughtiness, notwithstanding it has all the appearance of being both in the view of one who has not been taught to see the reason why it is necessary.

Undoubtedly that kind of demeanor in a republican would justly be considered as undeniable evidence of the highest arrogance and superciliousness, for just the same reason in its inverse application, that he has no exclusive rank to sustain by the requirements of the society in which he moves, and no inferior artificial rank against whose encroachments he is bound to guard.

Whether or no such a system is desirable in the abstract is not the question we are considering, but whether it be consistent with the civil rights, habits and enjoyments of those who choose to live under its sway, and believe it to be the one suited to their social wants and national happiness.

Surely there need be no more pride and arrogance in an aristocratic maintaining aristocracy than there is in a republican maintaining republicanism. The thing is the same, working through different channels, and combining different elements. I do not suppose there is one whit of difference in reference to the nature of pride in the whole human family; but the forms of society, the course of education, and the moral discipline of all kinds of religion, gives different directions to its current, as it sweeps along within more contracted or more extended embankments. The moral discipline of aristocracy is an every-day affair, and piles itself upon every individual in the state, so that the strangest of

all things would be that of being jostled out of his rank and brought to a level of equality with one beneath him. That would be a degradation—an exilement from every thing held most dear, a stripping off and wrenching away the golden ligatures that bind him to the social compact.

We may therefore conclude that the service and voluntary discipline of aristocracy are regarded by Englishmen as such extraordinary privileges, that no charms of popular allurement no promises of equalized greatness, and no hope of public plunder, will ever induce them to relinquish. The government is exactly suited to the people, and the people to the government. The wheels move with a singular harmony, without forcing the will of the subjects, impairing his liberty, or endangering the public security. No marvel then that a nation, thus charmed with royalty, and attached to all its details, always rises instinctively as one man at the thrilling melody of "God save the King."

Every sensible man condemns a malignant and acrimonious spirit, because it betrays a want of benevolence and of that delicate sensibility of Christian principles which ought to lead the mind make another's woes or another's wrongs whether real or imaginary, its own. We justly complain of the taunting, vituperative and contemptuous spirit which breathes in European publications, and which comes to our shores floating upon every breeze. "The Model Republic" is the target of ridicule; the manners of the people, the peculiarities of our institutions, and even universal religious toleration, are fruitful topics for untempered wit and sarcastic declamation. But whilst we see and feel all this, it may be well to consider whether we ourselves, are entirely exempt from the indulgence of the same censorious spirit which we so promptly condemn its authors.

We choose a republican form of government, and demand what right have other nations to interfere with that choice?—to launch, with an unscrupulous hand, their envenomed arrows from the quiver of wit and ridicule against institutions of which they have at best but a theoretical knowledge?

England chooses a monarchy, and what occasion have we to object to that choice, and to storm the fortress of her aristocracy with congressional artillery, because incompatible with our notions of a wise and popular government? So long as we are satisfied with our choice of system, ought we not to allow other nations to be satisfied with theirs? The mutual superiority which pervades the public mind, and disturbs the tranquility of society, on the ground of a difference in the form of government and its consequences, discovers a diseased intellect, and must result in reciprocal alienation, and the blotting out of every particle of Christian benevolence and amiable sentiment. The only good point of humanity which survives "the loss of Paradise," and the richest fragment of that blissful state, is sacrificed.

In my next communication I propose to take a short view of the aspect of society in the United States, and to show why the manners of the people are and ought to be essentially different from those of a monarchy.

## THE VETO MESSAGE.

This document is, in every respect, worthy of its distinguished author. It discusses, in a clear and able manner, the constitutional powers of the Government in regard to internal improvements, and breathes the spirit of republicanism throughout. The doctrines which it contains are just such as every strict constructionist of the constitution would expect from the President, and his exposition of them, at this time, can be regarded as peculiarly appropriate. There has of late been a disposition, in some quarters, to revive the old Federal notions in regard to internal improvements, and the President merits the thanks of the country for arresting the progress of a principle, which, if carried out, would not only involve the Union in extravagant expenditures, but seriously threaten its peace and harmony.

The great danger which the Democracy have apprehended under the constitution has been consolidation, and hence they have ever been the advocates of a strict construction of its provisions. Mr. Polk has gone back to first principles, and calls upon the country to persevere the old landmarks. That he will be triumphantly sustained in this act, we have no doubt. [Argus.]

MAN VS. MONEY. The British Island has been convulsed to its centre in the mighty struggle between Man and Money—the People and Property—Bread and Buckram. Thanks to the spirit of reform, man has triumphed—his bread is free. Man—the people, demanded bread, and the unfeeling monopolists would have given them a stone, but they are shorn of their power to rule. Man and bread are up—money and buckram have fallen. The same struggle has just been terminated in our country. The fight for a high protective tariff was but an effort of Money to retain its foot upon the neck of Man, but the incubus has been thrown off—man will rise—his labor will secure to him a higher reward. Buckram only will suffer by the issue. [Maine Enquirer.]

The Saco Union states that the York Company at Saco has declared a semi annual dividend of ten per cent. It is really surprising that the same paper which chronicles such fat dividends should have the hardihood to contend that the manufacturing interests of the country will not bear a reduction of the protection extended to them by the revenue act of '32. [Maine Enquirer.]



OXFORD DEMOCRAT.

PARIS, AUGUST 18, 1846.

ELECTION—MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 14.

Democratic Republican Nomination.

FOR GOVERNOR,  
JOHN W. DANA.

We last week gave our readers the Veto Message of the President on returning to the House of Representatives the River and Harbor Bill with his objections. It adds another to the many proofs already given of the excellence and importance of the Veto power. It also adds another to the many able and luminous documents which have issued from the Executive department of the federal government, illustrating the unconstitutionality and inexpediency of appropriations from the public treasury for local improvements. We hope that every man in the country will read or hear read this message. There is no subject which deserves to be more thoroughly impressed upon the minds of those with whom rests the sovereign power, than the danger of entering upon a system of internal improvements.

Once upon the flood-gates of expenditure for such a purpose, and there would be no end to the extravagance and corruption that would follow. Local interests from different sections of the country could combine and carry their projects by the most scandalous log-rolling—in other words, by bribing each other. How far short of this, in fact, comes the very bill which the President has felt impelled by his duty to veto? That bill embraced more than forty objects of expenditure, and appropriated nearly a million and a half of dollars. Had the number of objects been smaller, the bill in all probability could not have passed. Votes were obtained for it by lulling in a project here and another there, until it was found that a sufficient number had been chained together to carry the whole batch through. More would have been added if more had been necessary. But with forty objects of expenditure, if each one had five friends in the House, or one in the Senate, who would vote for the whole batch in order to secure their own particular object, the bill was seen to pass, although there were no six men in the House, and no two in the Senate, who were not opposed to thirty-nine for the sake of it. Can a more dangerous and corrupting system be imagined? We do not mean to charge that members of Congress have in this instance acted thus corruptly, but we wish to show the tendency of this kind of legislation. Our only safety consists in a strict observance of the constitution which defines, and limits the powers of government. In matters of this kind it is especially important not to lead men into temptation. The doctrines which have been laid down upon this subject by Jefferson, Madison, Jackson, Van Buren, and, finally, by Polk, embrace the sound and true republican principles to which we must rigidly adhere, or we shall soon find ourselves upon a stormy sea without helm or compass. But any comments of ours are unnecessary. We therefore dismiss the subject by again recommending an attentive perusal of this statesmanlike message.

ADJOURNMENT OF THE LEGISLATURE.—The Legislature adjourned one week ago yesterday morning, after a laborious session of 90 days. During the session there have been passed 168 acts and 89 resolutions, being a much larger number of acts than has ever been passed by any preceding session of the Legislature. The amount of business which has been brought before the Legislature during this session has been emphatically a "working one." Questions of a national character have not been agitated; nor has any thing of a party character been discussed, if we except the attempt of the Whigs to get up an issue on the subject of the election of U. S. Senators. This matter, however, soon received its quietus from the Whigs, who soon found it an unprofitable discussion for them in a party point of view. With the exception of this question, no subject of a character foreign to the legitimate purposes of State legislation, has occupied any considerable portion of time during the session. Notwithstanding the unprecedented amount of business which has been brought before the session just closed, it will be seen that this has not been a long session. It is, in fact, twelve days shorter than the session of 1841, when the Whigs were in the ascendancy, and at which time 107 acts and 87 resolutions only were passed.

We shall furnish our readers in a week or two with the public Laws passed at this session on an extra sheet of the Democrat, when they will have an opportunity to judge for themselves of the faithfulness of their servants.

ADJOURNMENT OF CONGRESS.—Congress adjourned the tenth inst. The bill, passed by the House, appropriating \$2,000,000 to negotiate peace with Mexico, was lost in the Senate for want of time. It was killed by Mr. Davis, of Mass., talking against time, he having refused to give way for the Chairman of the Finance Committee to introduce a resolution to extend the hour of adjournment, and continuing speaking until within one minute of the final adjournment. In this way the bill was lost, there being but very little doubt that it would have passed had there been a little longer time.

The bill to establish the Smithsonian Institute passed both Houses. It provides for a board of Regents who are required by the law to meet in the city of Washington on the first Monday of September next, to enter on the duties of their appointment.

We learn from the Argus, that Hon. John W. Dana had a narrow escape from a serious accident, a week ago last Friday, at Fryburg. He was standing in his wagon, when the horse attached started unexpectedly, and threw him forcibly to the ground, striking on the back part of his head. He was not seriously injured, although he yet experiences some inconvenience from the fall.

Gerrard R. Shaw, Esq., of Danfield, has been nominated for Register of Probate for this County.

FRENCH SPOILIATIONS.—The bill which passed both branches of Congress, entitled "an act to provide for the ascertainment and satisfaction of claims of American citizens for spoiliations committed by the French prior to the 31st of July, 1801," and which appropriated \$5,000,000 for their liquidation, has been vetoed by the President. His objections are—That he can perceive no legal or equitable ground upon which so large an appropriation can rest; That the claims had their origin in events which occurred prior to 1800, and a portion of them had been before the government near half a century, during all which period the questionable measure has never until now received the favorable consideration of Congress; That had the claim been regarded as obligatory upon the government, or constituting an equitable demand upon the treasury, those who were contemporaneous with the events which gave rise to it, should not long since have done justice to the claimants. The treasury has often been in a condition to enable the government to do so without inconvenience, had they been considered just. That from their first presentation up to 1836, these claims had met with no favor in Congress beyond reports of Committees in one or the other branch. That nothing was obtained for the claimants by negotiation from France. That the bill assumes that the United States have become liable to make reparation to the claimants for injuries committed by France. That the present is a period particularly unfavorable for the satisfaction of claims, of so large an amount, and to say the least of them, of so doubtful a character, and that he objects to the bill upon the ground of its inexpediency.

POTATOE DISEASE.—A writer in the Portland Argus on the Potatoe Disease, advocates the idea that the disease is by old age, and sustains his arguments by reasoning from analogy. He says—"It is now two or three centuries since the world was made acquainted with this vegetable." "In the year 1757, Sir Walter Raleigh had thought to introduce to the old world a novelty, and accordingly left some potatoes on his return from this country in Ireland. They were planted and reared with such success that they were soon introduced into England, and from thence disseminated over the continent. We see from this, that the age of the potatoe, unless it has been re-produced from the seed, must be every where the same." He asserts that "vegetables, like animals, have their time of life." "Wheat and corn survive but a season, the common herbage but a limited period, and others of the same class more limited still. The potatoe, too, must follow the laws of organic matter. I am not prepared to name its day of life, be it long or short, it is nothing to my argument; but I am as certain it must die, as that we must pay the debt of nature." "Whilst the agriculturist has been obliged to raise his corn, barley and oats from the seed, he could do differently with the potatoe; he could plant the root. The planting of the root was but a continuation—not a reproduction—of the same potatoe; and for aught we know, we are cultivating the same potatoe in this day, that Raleigh and his contemporaries cultivated almost three hundred years ago."

Now if this reasoning is correct, that the continuation from the root is the cause of the decay or disease, may not the potatoe yet be preserved by reproduction from the bulbs or seed every six, eight or ten years? Will not some of our farming friends take the hint, and preserve a quantity of the bulbs for planting another year, and plant such potatoes only hereafter as have been reproduced from the bulb within a given period? It is worth an experiment, even if there is another cause for the disease.

Look out for round Wing assertions, starting facts, accounts of Democratic disaffections, labors, and employment, &c., &c., about this time. It is the season of the year in which the Whigs are afflicted with hydrophobia, delirium, seeing double, and many other complaints for which we can find no name. Democrats give them a bucket of cold water when you find them feebly.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY CONVENTION.—The Democratic Convention for Cumberland County was held at Gray on the 17th inst. and is reported to have been very fully attended.

Asa W. H. Campbell, of Portland, was nominated as the candidate for Congress. Whole number of ballots 681. Mr. Campbell had 37. N. S. Litchfield 30. Joseph H. and L.

James M. French, of Raymond, and Charles H. French, of Portland, were nominated for Senators. For Register of Deeds, Wm. R. French, County Treasurer, John W. Smith, County Attorney, H. J. Swanwick, County Commissioner, Daniel M. Child.

York County Convention was held at Alfred on Wednesday last. Charles G. Bellows, of Kennebunk, was nominated for the Senate. Isaac Merrill, of Lewiston, for County Treasurer. Abner Barlow, of Lewiston, for County Commissioner. Chase, of York, for Register of Deeds.

It is said that many of the Oregon emigrants are leaving the territory to return to their former homes. A wild spirit of adventure frequently induces those who feel it to disregard all idea of hardship and fatigue. Hence this return.

Wm. M. Pace, formerly U. S. District Attorney for New York, committed suicide at that city on Tuesday last, by shooting himself through the head. Cause—lowness of spirits and pecuniary difficulties.

JAMES W. BRADLEY.—The Whigs seem determined to keep this gentleman out of the U. S. Senate, if skillful maneuvering will do it. As a last resort a regular notice has been served on him to show cause why he should not be prevented from taking his seat in that body.

Benjamin B. Leavett has been appointed by the President and confirmed by the Senate, Surveyor and Inspector of the revenue for the port of Newport, in this State. Also, Alfred M. Mason to be collector of the customs for the district, and Inspector of the revenue for the port of Belfast, in the place of Nathaniel L. Leavett.

THE SALLY BUSINESS, concerning Mr. Dallas, has reached the interior of Pennsylvania. If these Whigs and Natives knew how much service they are doing Mr. Dallas by business and riotous proceedings they would at once desert.

BURNING IN EFFIGY.—We recommend the following from a Pennsylvania paper, to the careful perusal of violent protectionists. It is remarkably pointed, we think, and "speaks for itself."

"The effigy of George M. Dallas was burned in the public streets of Philadelphia last week by a Federal mob. During the same week, the followers of those who comprehend this mob, and calling themselves National Republicans, burned the effigy of General Andrew Jackson on the same ground. In 1793, the effigy of John Adams was burned on the same identical spot by the grandsons of the Federalists. In 1793-4, the great-grandchildren of this same mob of 1793-4 burned the effigy of Patrick Henry and George Washington on the same spot likewise, and went on to burn the effigies of all the great men of the Revolution. The line of descent is so direct, and the spirit of the mob is so strong, that it is not surprising that the old generation should now repeat the same crime, and that they should advise their children to change their names."

MAJOR KINGOLD.—Extensive preparations are making by the military companies of Baltimore to receive and bury with military honors the remains of the lamented Major Kingold, which are soon expected to arrive there from the South. It will be a solemn, grand, and imposing spectacle. The body is to be interred in Green Mount Cemetery.

Some speculating genius has been exporting clams to Cape Cod. This is about equal to sending clams to Long Island.

Ten thousand persons recently attended a Methodist camp meeting held at Government Bridge, Delaware.

PUBLICATION OF THE TREATY AND CONVENTIONS.—J. S. Wallace, of the Philadelphia North American, who was summoned to Washington by the Senate, in relation to the publication of the Oregon Treaty, has returned. Mr. Wallace testified that he received the documents through the Post Office authorities, and as a piece of highly important news, considered himself justified in the absence of Mr. Graham, who was at Cape May, in making it public.

GIVEN UP.—Mr. Barrell has given up all the property for the use of the Bank at Nantuxet, and claims that he has ever abstracted any of the funds. He admits that he has been somewhat negligent in keeping the books, and the consequence is that errors have occurred which cannot otherwise be accounted for.

A man, a while ago, in giving a concert at Cleveland, Ohio, informed the public that a variety of songs might be expected, but he failed to mention

The Sea states a milestone has existed in Cal. Stevenson's monument. We know no other very wealthy young man who goes a private. He is worth about \$100,000.—N. Y. News.

The following is recorded as a simple one: Effectual remedy for the Diphtheria—22 drops of lemon juice, 4 of compound spirit of lavender and 1 of camphor. A teaspoonful of a glass.

A FARMER. The manufacturer remarks the Pennsylvania farmer, who said they could "live" under a duty of twenty per cent less than those charged by the law of 1842, are the very gentlemen who know how to "live." They live in splendid houses, on luxurious farms, and in the enjoyment of all that money can procure. We are glad to hear that they are not ashamed to admit that they could "live" if a centime in the old way, with a reduction of twenty-five dollars in every hundred of their profits.

STAYED IN TEXAS.—The New Orleans Jeffersonian says: "We would not see Louis Philippe pass by the land of an assassin, though it may be a crime." This is a revival of an ancient and much used phrase.

TEACHERS.—With and Mann, the proprietors of a very fine paper mill, exhibit among other things, a machine invented upon them by the children of the town of Worcester, Mass. After being subjected to the scrutiny of the committee, they are reported to have been very fully approved.

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exports and imports that must pass between the old and the new world.

Instead then, of complaining of one or two slight evils in detail, let us take a broad view of the tariff question which disturbs so many without their looking at it in its great practical results, or well understanding what it means; and in that enlightened self-love which is higher than mere selfishness, give the new law a fair trial and see if we cannot permit the whole world to be bettered without endangering our own gains, or even complaining if the great general good is promoted though slightly at the cost of individual advantage.

Give the new tariff bill a fair trial, and amend it in good faith when experience requires it, and in three years from the time, the wealth and prosperity and happiness of this nation, and the aggregate profits of the manufacturers themselves, will be incomparably greater under the new than they would have been under the old law.

FROM WASHINGTON.

The President, on Thursday, signed the warehousing and sub-treasury bills; also the bill for the admission of Wisconsin into the Union.

In the Senate, nothing was done of importance except the election of Mr. Atchison, of Missouri, President pro tem, after which the Senate went into executive session.

In the House, the general appropriation bill was under discussion, when a message was received from the President of the U. S. in relation to the \$2,000,000 appropriation for the termination of the Mexican war.

After considerable discussion, the House passed a bill authorizing the expenditure of the above sum for that purpose—85 to 79.

The following is the Message:—

To the Senate and House of Representatives: I invite your attention to the propriety of making the appropriation to provide for any expenditures which it may be necessary to make in advance for the purpose of settling all our difficulties with the Mexican republic. It is my desire to terminate, as it was originally to avoid, the existing war with Mexico, by a peace just and honorable to both parties. It is probable that the chief obstacle to be surmounted in accomplishing this desirable object will be to the adjustment of the boundary between the two republics, which shall prove satisfactory and convenient to both, and such as neither will hereafter be inclined to disturb. For the adjustment of this boundary we ought to pay a fair equivalent for any concession which may be made by Mexico.

Under these circumstances, and considering the other complicated questions to be settled by negotiation with the Mexican republic, I deem it important that a sum of money should be placed under the control of the executive, to be advanced, if need be, to the government of that republic, immediately after their ratification of the treaty. It might be inconvenient for the Mexican government to wait for the whole sum, the payment of which might be stipulated by this treaty, until it could be raised by our Senate, and an appropriation to carry it into effect made by Congress. Indeed the necessity for this delay might defeat the object altogether. The disbursement of this money would of course be accounted for, but as secret service money, but like other expenditures, Two precedents for such a proceeding exist in our past history, during the administration of Mr. Jefferson, to which I would call your attention.

On the 22d February, 1803, an act was passed appropriating two millions of dollars for the purpose of defraying any ordinary expenses which may be incurred in the intercourse between the United States and foreign nations, to be applied under the direction of the president of the United States and foreign nations, to be applied under the direction of the president of the United States, who shall cause an account of the expenditure thereof to be laid before Congress as soon as may be; and on the 13th February, 1806, an appropriation was made of the same amount and in the same terms. In neither case was the money actually drawn from the treasury, and I should hope that the result in this respect might be similar on the present occasion, although the appropriation may prove to be indispensable in accomplishing the object.

I must therefore recommend the passage of a law appropriating two millions of dollars to be placed at the disposal of the executive, for the purpose which I have indicated. In order to prevent any misapprehension, it is my duty to state that, anxious as I am to terminate the existing war with the least possible delay, it will continue to be prosecuted with the utmost vigor until a treaty of peace shall be signed by the parties and ratified by the Mexican republic.

JAMES K. POLK.  
Washington, August 8th, 1846.

A man named John Libbey was drowned in Portland harbor on Tuesday. On Wednesday a man was killed by falling from a staging at the Mount Auburn chapel, in Portland.

Christ wit. A distinguished clergyman, a few weeks since, being requested to open the services with prayer, but not having been invited to preach, declined saying that "if his friend was going to do the moving, he might wish his own saythe."

The Whigs are making a most vigorous effort to induce the abolitionists to yield up their separate organization and unite with them in the coming elections. To effect this purpose was the design of Mr. Giddings in his late tour through this State. Our neighbor of the Liberty Standard don't seem to relish the scheme very well. He would have no objection to swallowing up the Whig party, but don't seem to be at all pleased with the idea of being Johnnized himself. So far as the democracy is concerned it is wholly immaterial whether we fight these parties separate or combined—we are bound to beat them both any how.

Captain May has been nominated by the President and confirmed by the Senate—first, as Brever Major of Dragoons, for his services in the battle of the 5th of May, and secondly, as Brever Lieut. Colonel of Dragoons, for his services in the battle of the 9th.

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